

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CARACA 05903 231911Z
ACTION SCS-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SY-05 MCT-01 CIAE-00 INR-10
NSAE-00 L-03 EB-08 CA-01 /045 W
-----031430 240857Z /12
R 231751Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2801

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINS VE
SUBJECT: NEIHOUSE CASE-COURT TESTIMONY

1. "EL NACIONAL" JUNE 21 CARRIES STORY NOTING THAT
FORMER DISIP (INTERIOR MINISTRY SECURITY SERVICE)
DIRECTOR ARISTIDES LANDER AND MARCO TULIO BURNI CELLI,
FORMER VICE MINISTER OF INTERIOR MINISTRY, TESTIFIED
JUNE 20 BEFORE THE THIRD MILITARY COURT OF CARACAS
AT THE REQUEST OF VINCENTE GONZALEZ HERRERA, THE DEFENSE
LAWYER FOR DEPUTY FORTUNATO HERRERA, CONCERNING THEIR
KNOWLEDGE OF FORTUNATO HERRERA'S ALLEGED COMPLICITY IN
THE NIEHOUSE KIDNAPPING.

2. COMMENT: LAWYER GONZALEZ HERRERA ALSO IS SEEKING
THE TESTIMONY OF THOMAS HUGHES, WILLIAM COLEMAN, MRS
DONNA NIEHOUS, AND TERRY CANAVAN. SINCE THE LATTER THREE
ARE IN THE US, GONZALEZ HERRERA IS SENDING LETTERS ROGATORY
PROBABLY THROUGH THE VENEZUELAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON.
HUGHES, PROMINENT LOCAL ATTORNEY, TOLD POLCOUNS THAT THE
HAD TESTIFIED BEFORE THE MILITARY TRIBUNAL. HUGHES SAID
FURTHER THAT HE ATTEMPTED TO DISSUADE LAWYER GONZALEZ FROM
SENDING LETTERS ROGATORY TO MRS NIEHOUS AND TO COLEMAN
AND CANAVAN. HUGHES SAID HE THOUGHT HE HAD SUCCEEDED IN
DISSUADING HIM AT LEAST WITH RESPECT TO MRS NIEHOUS.

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3. DEPARTMENT MAY HEAR FROM VENEZUELAN EMBASSY IN
WASHINGTON ON HOW TO DELIVER LETTERS ROGATORY MENTIONED
ABOVE.
VAKY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: KIDNAPPING, COURTS, LEGISLATIVE TESTIMONY
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Release Date: N/A
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